

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Office Action indicated that claim 1 was unclear and that clarification was required. Applicants have amended claim 1 in accordance with the suggestions provided in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Koike et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,629,056). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a liquid crystal display element which includes a circuit array substrate having pixel electrodes and a resin layer interposed therebetween and a counter substrate having a common electrode. In contrast, Koike discloses an upper substrate 18 with an element electrode 24 and a lower substrate 16 with a common electrode 21. Koike further discloses that the common electrode 21 and the element electrode 24 can be reversed (i.e., such that the common electrode 21 is on the upper substrate 18 and the element electrode 24 is on the lower substrate 16. Additionally, Koike specifically recites that a color filter layer (not shown) is provided under the common electrode (column 11 line 50 – column 12, line 5). Therefore, Koike does not teach or suggest that the resin layer is interposed between the circuit array substrate and the pixel electrode, as recited in claim 1.

Claim 2 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons provided above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

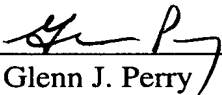
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 under Order No. 9270/284995. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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